

BLOCK OF THE MONTH. — Flower with 8 Petals

**IMPORTANT NOTE WHEN PRESSING:** DO NOT USE STEAM. AS EACH PETAL IS SEWN INTO THE BLOCK, SEW BOTH PARALLEL SEAMS BEFORE TRYING TO IRON. FINGER PRESS ALLOWANCES TOWARD THE DARK FABRIC. THEN PRESS THE SEAM ALLOWANCES ON THE WRONG SIDE TOWARD THE DARK PETAL FABRIC. AS THE IRON MOVES IN FROM THE SIDE, GENTLY PULL THE BLOCK AWAY FROM THE IRON, BEING CAREFUL NOT TO STRETCH. AFTER THE SEAMS ARE FLAT, TURN TO RIGHT SIDE, SMOOTH, AND PRESS.

**PLEASE DO NOT TRIM THIS BLOCK.**

FABRIC A: Background: (choose one)

WHITE or  
WHITE-ON-WHITE or  
VERY PALE PRINT THAT READS AS WHITE

10" x 10" square (cut 1)  
7-1/2" x 3-1/2" rectangle (cut 2)

FABRIC B: Flower Petals

BRIGHT, BOLD CRAYON OR JEWEL-TONE PRINT OR SOLID

8-1/2" x 7-1/2" rectangle (cut 1)

FABRIC C: Flower Center:

CONTRAST TO FLOWER

1-3/4" x 1-3/4" square (cut 1)

**STEP 1:** With right sides together sew a fabric A rectangle on each of the opposite short sides of fabric B. Press seam toward the dark fabric.

Using a ruler and rotary cutter, cut the block you just made into 4 strip units, each of which is 1-3/4" wide. (There is a little extra fabric, enough to carefully straighten up the edge, cut 4 strips units, and have a tiny bit of scrap left over.)

**STEP 2:** Take the 10" x 10" fabric A square, and cut it along ONE diagonal, forming 2 triangles.

Sew one ABA strip unit right in the middle of the diagonal cut you just made, centering as best you can. (The strip unit is slightly longer, but that is okay. Be careful not to stretch the bias).

After sewing BOTH seams, press seam allowances toward the dark fabric on the wrong side. Once you have flattened the seam allowances inward, turn right side up and press.

**STEP 3:** Take the block and cut it along the OTHER diagonal. This cut will bisect the strip unit that was just inserted.

Sew one ABA strip unit in the middle of the diagonal cut, centering as best you can. (This time the strip unit is slightly shorter, but that is okay. Just match up the centers and sew).

Again, after sewing BOTH seams, press carefully from the wrong side without steam, being mindful with the bias.

**STEP 4:** Line up the block on a cutting board using the lines as guides as well as you can. Cut in half vertically, using the 2 points of intersection on the "X" and the lines of the cutting board as guides.

Sew one ABA strip unit in between the two halves as before, matching centers. This time the strip will be about 1-1/2" longer on each side than the block itself. Press on the wrong side as in previous steps.

AT THIS POINT IT MAY LOOK AS THOUGH THE PETALS ARE NOT POSITIONED RIGHT, BUT THEY WILL BE SHORTLY.

**STEP 5:** Prepare for the flower center by folding the last ABA strip unit in half and cutting it crosswise through the middle using a scissors. Now sew the 1-3/4" square of fabric C between the two pieces you just cut, forming an ABCBA strip unit. Press seams away from center toward fabric B.

**STEP 6:** Line up the large block on a cutting board and make the last cut horizontally through the middle, being sure to cut through the two points of intersection on the "X".

Sew the ABCBA strip unit between the two halves. The ends of the strip unit will extend beyond the block.

Press both seams as before.

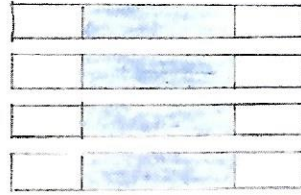
THE BLOCK SHOULD NOW BE ABOUT 11-1/2' SQUARE WITH SOME UNEVEN EDGES AND AND LONG ENDS HANGING OUT.

**PLEASE DO NOT TRIM THE BLOCK. TRIMMING SHOULD ONLY BE DONE WHEN THE FINAL DESIGN IS IN VIEW.**

STEP 1

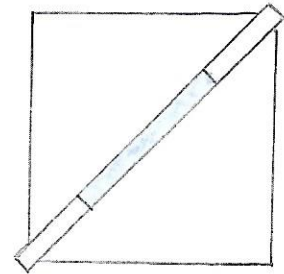
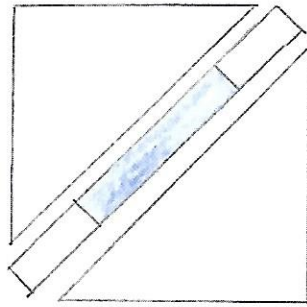
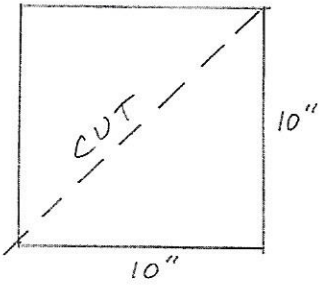


ABA BLOCK

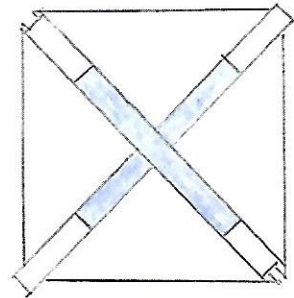
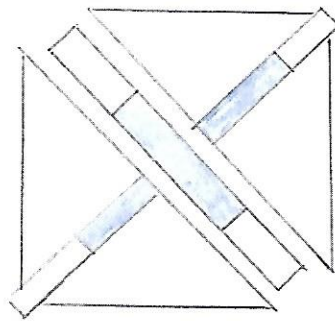
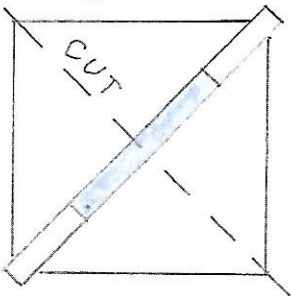


4 ABA STRIP UNITS

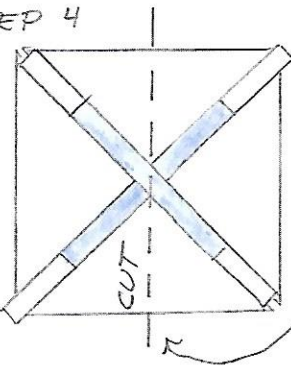
STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4



INSERT THIRD ABA STRIP UNIT

STEP 5



STEP 6

